Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

19 June 2014

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2014 Meeting
Geneva, 1-5 December 2014

Meeting of Experts
Geneva, 4-8 August 2014
Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the programme of work

Provisional programme of work for the Meeting of Experts

Submitted by the Chairman

Day	*AM (10:00–13:00)*	*PM (15:00–18:00)*
Mon 4/8	Opening formalities (agenda items 1–4) Introductory statements Informal session for NGO statements	How to strengthen implementation of Article VII, including consideration of detailed procedures and mechanisms for the provision of assistance and cooperation by States Parties (agenda item 8)
Tue 5/8	Cooperation and assistance, with a particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under Article X (agenda item 5): – Reports by States Parties on their implementation of Article X, and reports by the ISU on the operation of the database system to facilitate assistance requests and offers;[1]	Cooperation and assistance, with a particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under Article X (agenda item 5): – Education, training, exchange and twinning programmes and other means of developing human resources in the biological sciences and technology relevant to the implementation of the Convention, particularly in developing countries;

[1] This sub-item was originally allocated for consideration in 2014 by the 2012 Chairman in his letter to States Parties of 21 June 2012.

Day	*AM (10:00–13:00)*	*PM (15:00–18:00)*
	– Challenges and obstacles to developing international cooperation, assistance and exchange in the biological sciences and technology, including equipment and material, for peaceful purposes to their full potential, and possible means of overcoming these;[1] – A range of specific measures for the full and comprehensive implementation of Article X taking into account all of its provisions, including facilitation of cooperation and assistance, including in terms of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for peaceful purposes, and identification of critical gaps and needs in these areas; – Ways and means to target and mobilize resources, including financial resources, to address gaps and needs for assistance and cooperation, in particular from developed to developing States Parties, and from international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders.[1]	– Capacity-building, through international cooperation, in biosafety and biosecurity, and for detecting, reporting, and responding to outbreaks of infectious disease or biological weapons attacks, including in the areas of preparedness, response, and crisis management and mitigation;[1] – Coordination of cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, and other relevant stakeholders.[1]
Wed 6/8	Review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention (agenda item 6), focusing on advances in the understanding of pathogenicity, virulence, toxicology, immunology and related issues: – New science and technology developments that have potential for uses contrary to the provisions of the Convention;[1] – New science and technology developments that have potential benefits for the Convention, including those of special relevance to disease surveillance, diagnosis and mitigation;[1]	Review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention (agenda item 6), focusing on advances in the understanding of pathogenicity, virulence, toxicology, immunology and related issues: – Voluntary codes of conduct and other measures to encourage responsible conduct by scientists, academia and industry; – Education and awareness-raising about risks and benefits of life sciences and biotechnology. – Science- and technology-related developments relevant to the activities of multilateral organizations such as the WHO, OIE, FAO, IPPC and OPCW;[1]

Day	*AM (10:00–13:00)*	*PM (15:00–18:00)*
	– Possible measures for strengthening national biological risk management, as appropriate, in research and development involving new science and technology developments of relevance to the Convention.[1]	– Any other science and technology developments of relevance to the Convention.[1]
Thu 7/8	Strengthening national implementation (agenda item 7): – A range of specific measures for the full and comprehensive implementation of the Convention, especially Articles III and IV;[1] – Ways and means to enhance national implementation, sharing best practices and experiences, including the voluntary exchange of information among States Parties on their national implementation, enforcement of national legislation, strengthening of national institutions and coordination among national law enforcement institutions;[1] – Regional and sub-regional cooperation that can assist national implementation of the Convention[1]	Strengthening national implementation (agenda item 7): – National, regional and international measures to improve laboratory biosafety and security of pathogens and toxins; – Any potential further measures, as appropriate, relevant for implementation of the Convention.
Fri 8/8	How to strengthen implementation of Article VII, including consideration of detailed procedures and mechanisms for the provision of assistance and cooperation by States Parties (agenda item 8)	Adoption of the factual report reflecting the deliberations of the meeting (agenda item 9) Closing of the meeting (agenda item 10)